

IN THE CLAIMS

Please **amend** claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 13, 15, and 23 as shown in the Status of the Claims section, *infra*.

Additions are underlined and deletions are struckthrough and/or enclosed between double brackets ([[ ]]).

The claims have been amended to correct noun-verb agreement. No new matter has been added.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended). An image transmission device which is connected to an external device via a communications network and can be operated in accordance with a request from the external device, comprising:

an image scanning section for scanning a document image and generating image data;

an image transmitting section for transmitting the image data to an external image receiving device in response to a request for transmission of the image data sent from the external device;

a specific image judging section for judging whether or not the image data generated in said image scanning section are[[is]] identical with specific image data; and

a transmission control section for controlling the transmission of the image data in said image transmitting section based on a result of judgment by said specific image judging section.

Claim 2 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 1, further comprising:

an image storage section for storing the image data generated in said image scanning section,

wherein said image transmitting section, in response to the request for image data transmission, transmits the image data previously stored in said image storage section to an external receiving device.

Claim 3 (currently amended). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 1, further comprising:

a control section which, in response to the request for image data transmission from an external device, controls said image scanning section to be activated and generate the image data so that the image data thus generated are[[is]] transmitted from said image transmitting section.

Claim 4 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 1, wherein said transmission control section, when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data, prohibits or restricts the transmission of the image data by said image transmitting section.

Claim 5 (currently amended). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 1, further comprising:

a transmission request sender information storage section which, when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data, stores information about an external device which requested the transmission of the image data.

Claim 6 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 5; further comprising:

call refusing means for refusing to receive a call from an external device which, according to the information stored in said transmission request sender information storage section, once sent a request for transmission of the specific image data.

Claim 7 (currently amended). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 1, further comprising:

warning means for, when it is judged that the image data are identical with the specific image data, giving a warning to an external device which requested the transmission of the image data.

Claim 8 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 7, wherein said warning means transmits a written warning to the external device.

Claim 9 (currently amended). An image transmission device which is connected to an external device via a communications network and can be operated in response to a request from the external device, comprising:

an image receiving section for receiving image data transmitted from an external image transmission device;

an image transmitting section for transmitting the image data to an external image receiving device in response to a request for transmission of the image data sent from the external device;

a specific image judging section for judging whether or not the image data received by said image receiving section are~~is~~ identical with specific image data; and

a transmission control section for controlling the transmission of the image data in said image transmitting section based on a result of judgment by said specific image judging section.

Claim 10 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 9, further comprising:

an image storage section for storing the image data received by said image receiving section,

wherein said image transmitting section, in response to the request for image data transmission, transmits the image data previously stored in said image storage section to an external receiving device.

Claim 11 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 9, further comprising:

an image transmission request section for sending a request for image data transmission to the external image transmission device in response to the request for image data transmission from the external device.

Claim 12 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 9, wherein said transmission control section, when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data, prohibits or restricts the transmission of the image data by said image transmitting section.

Claim 13 (currently amended). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 9, further comprising:

a transmission request sender information storage section which, when it is judged that the image data are~~is~~ identical with the specific image data, stores information on an external device which requested the transmission of the image data.

Claim 14 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 13, further comprising:

call refusing means for refusing to receive a call from an external device which, according to the information stored in said transmission request sender information storage section, once sent a request for transmission of the specific image data.

Claim 15 (currently amended). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 9, further comprising:

warning means for, when it is judged that the image data are~~is~~ identical with the specific image data, notifying an external device which requested the transmission of the image data of a warning.

Claim 16 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 15, wherein said warning means transmits a written warning to the external device.

Claim 17 (original). An image transmission device, comprising:

an image scanning section for scanning an image of a document;

first storage means for storing image data of the document scanned by said image scanning section;

specific document judging means for judging whether or not the document scanned by said image scanning section is a specific document; and

warning means for, when the document is judged as the specific document by said specific document judging means, and a request for retrieving an image is sent from an external device with respect to image data of the document judged as the specific document, giving a warning to the external device.

Claim 18 (original). An image transmission device, comprising:

an image scanning section for scanning an image of a document set;

first storage means for storing image data of the document scanned by said image scanning section;

specific document judging means for judging whether or not the document scanned by said image scanning section is a specific document;

storage control means for, when it is judged that the document is the specific document by said specific document judging means, clearing the image data stored in said first storage means while storing information indicating that the document is judged to be the specific document in second storage means; and

warning means for, when an external device sends a request for retrieving the image data thus judged to be of the specific document and cleared from said first storage means, giving a warning to the external device.

Claim 19 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 18, wherein, when the external device sends the request for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document and cleared from said first storage means, said storage control means stores at least an identification number of the external device in said second storage means.

Claim 20 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 19, wherein, when the external device sends the request for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document and cleared from said first storage means, said storage control means stores at least information indicating that the request for retrieving the image data was sent, together with the identification number of the external device, in said second storage means.

Claim 21 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 18, further comprising:

an output section for, when the external device sends the request for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document and cleared from said first storage means, outputting a report which at least includes an identification number of the external device and information indicating that the request for retrieving the image data was sent.

Claim 22 (original). The image transmission device set forth in Claim 19, further comprising:

call refusing means for, after the external device sends the request for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document and cleared from said first storage means, refusing any call from the external device having the identification number stored in said second storage means.

Claim 23 (currently amended). An image transmission method, comprising the steps of:

- (i) inputting image data;
  - (ii) judging whether or not the image data are~~is~~ specific image data;
  - (iii) receiving a request for transmission of the image data via a communications network; and
  - (iv) transmitting the image data in response to the request for transmission of the image data,
- wherein, in the step (iv), the transmission of the image data is controlled according to a result of judgment in the step (ii).

Claim 24 (original). An image transmission method, comprising the steps of:

scanning an image of a document;  
storing image data of the scanned document;  
transmitting the stored image data to an external device;  
judging whether or not the scanned document is a specific document; and  
giving a warning to an external device when the document is judged to be the specific document, and the external device sends a request for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document.